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SENATE BILL 523

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph A. Fidel

AN ACT

RELATING TO LEGISLATORS; CHANGING THE ETHICS CONTINUING
EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR LEGISLATORS FROM A MINIMUM OF ONE
HOUR ANNUALLY TO TWO HOURS BIENNIALY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 10-16-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1967,
Chapter 306, Section 11, as amended) is amended to read:

"10-16-11. CODES OF CONDUCT. --

A. By January 1, 1994, each elected statewide
executive branch public officer shall adopt a general code of
conduct for employees subject to his control. The New Mexico
legislative council shall adopt a general code of conduct for
all legislative branch employees. The general codes of conduct
shall be based on the principles set forth in the Governmental
Conduct Act.

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1 B. Within thirty days after the general codes of
2 conduct are adopted, they shall be given to and reviewed with
3 all executive and legislative branch officers and employees.
4 All new public officers and employees of the executive and
5 legislative branches shall review the employees' general code
6 of conduct prior to or at the time of being hired.

7 C. The head of every executive and legislative
8 agency and institution of the state may draft a separate code
9 of conduct for all public officers and employees in that agency
10 or institution. The separate agency code of conduct shall
11 prescribe standards, in addition to those set forth in the
12 Governmental Conduct Act and the general codes of conduct for
13 all executive and legislative branch public officers and
14 employees, that are peculiar and appropriate to the function
15 and purpose for which the agency or institution was created or
16 exists. The separate codes, upon approval of the responsible
17 executive branch public officer for executive branch public
18 officers and employees or the New Mexico legislative council
19 for legislative branch employees, govern the conduct of the
20 public officers and employees of that agency or institution
21 and, except for those public officers and employees removable
22 only by impeachment, shall, if violated, constitute cause for
23 dismissal, demotion or suspension. The head of each executive
24 and legislative branch agency shall adopt ongoing education
25 programs to advise public officers and employees about the

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1 codes of conduct. All codes shall be filed with the secretary
2 of state and are open to public inspection.

3 D. Codes of conduct shall be reviewed at least once
4 every four years. An amended code shall be filed as provided
5 in Subsection C of this section.

6 E. All legislators shall attend a minimum of [~~one~~
7 ~~hour~~] two hours of ethics continuing education and training
8 [~~annually~~] biennially. "

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